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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of

Takashi Suzumura et al.

Application No.: 10/689,613

Filed: October 22, 2003

For: CARRIER AND METHOD OF

MANUFACTURING CARRIER

Group Art Unit: 3681

Examiner: HA DINH HO

Confirmation No.: 4820

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(3)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-identified application is a divisional application of parent Application Serial No. 09/783,992. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3), applicants respectfully request acceptance of a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 for the benefit of prior-filed U.S. Application Serial No. 09/783,992 filed on February 16, 2001. Accompanying this Petition is an Amendment which includes a proper reference to the prior-filed application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the entire delay between February 22, 2004, the date by which the claim for priority was due under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(2)(ii), and the date of the accompanying Amendment was unintentional. The surcharge required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(t) is enclosed.

09/29/2004 GWORDOF1 00000086 10689613

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1330.00 OP

Adjustment date: 11/05/2004 AKELLEY 09/29/2004 GWORDOF1 00000086 10689613 01 FC:1454 -1330.00 OP Repln. Ref: 11/05/2004 AKELLEY 0009140500 DAH:024800 Name/Number:10180916 FC: 9204 VA 389266.1

Should any questions arise in connection with this matter, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: September 28, 2004

Matthew L. Schneider Registration No. 32,814

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404 (703) 836-6620